

AC. 4412 (1)

1 in 100 53
rebm

BOROUGH OF FAVERSHAM



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for

1956



Ans

BOROUGH OF FAVERSHAM

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for

1956

J.T. MURPHY

M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

MEDICAL OFFICER of HEALTH

THE TOWN COUNCIL
OF THE
BOROUGH OF FAVERSHAM

THE MAYOR

†Councillor Miss Florence Emily Graham

THE DEPUTY MAYOR

Councillor Harry Knowles

ALDERMEN :

F.G. Johnson
+ Phil Johnson, O.B.E.

+J.H. Johnson
+J.W. Videan

COUNCILLORS :

R.S. Amor
+ Mrs. A. Johnson
+ A.L. King
+ Mrs. L.D. Older
R.T. Winton

+G.C. Ely
J.A.E. Jones
+H.P. Lee-Roberts
A.A. Salmon
+L.H. Wood

(+ Denotes members of the Health Committee)

TOWN CLERK :

S. WILSON

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

to the Borough and Port of Faversham
John Terence Murphy, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

to the Borough and Port (Eastern Section) of Faversham

Mr. A.J. Hurn, C.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Port of Faversham (Western Section)

Mr. A. Leslie, M.S.I.A., A.R.San.I.

Chief Public Health Inspector Sittingbourne and Milton U.D.C.

CLERK (Part-time)

Mrs. C. Hogben

Municipal Offices,
Faversham.

July, 1957.

Mr. Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the health and sanitary conditions of the Borough for 1956 including a report on the Port Health Area.

The birth rate 14.6 except for 1951 is the lowest recorded for the past 10 years although the corrected birth rate of 15.3 is only slightly below the rate of 15.7 for England and Wales.

The crude death rate of 21.6 compares unfavourably with previous years which can be accounted for to a large extent by the increased number of deaths occurring at Bensted House - 115 deaths as compared with 86 in 1955, 73 in 1954 and 86 in 1953. Again, when the death rate is corrected for age distribution, the corrected death rate of 10.3 compares favourably with 11.7 for the whole Country.

The number of children under one year who died was 11. This number has only been equalled once in the past 10 years when 11 children died in 1946 and then the number of births was 389 as against 180 in 1956. The infant mortality rate is 61.1 compared with the rate of 23.8 for England and Wales, the lowest rate ever recorded.

It would appear that 1956 was unfortunate from the vital statistics point of view - with a loss of population, a lowered birth rate, a raised death rate and an infant mortality rate which has not been exceeded since 1938. The infant mortality rate is usually taken as the index of the social amenities of an area with special relationship to housing, sanitation and Maternal and Child Welfare. However, it must be remembered that dealing with small numbers wide variations will occur and the assessment of conditions of a district cannot be made on the returns of a single year.

It is pleasant to record that only 56 notifications of infectious disease were received as against 482 in the previous year. The one case of Poliomyelitis was a young man aged 19 years who made a complete recovery.

During the year the number of houses represented either in Clearance Areas or Individually Unfit is 48 and this together with 32 the previous year is a good beginning for the Council's Slum Clearance Programme.

I would like to thank Mr. Hurn, your Public Health Inspector, for the way he has carried out his duties and especially for the great effort required to stage the Clean Food Exhibition and I wish to record my thanks to the other departments of the Council for their willing help and advice. I would also thank the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their interest and assistance during the year.

I am,
Your Obedient Servant,

J.T. Murphy,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION I
STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS
OF THE AREA

Climatology

The total rainfall during the year was 25.48 inches as compared with 26.61 inches in 1955 and 27.43 inches in 1954.

The Maximum and Minimum temperatures, together with the rainfall recorded each month, are shown in Appendix "A".

Area

3,070 acres. No change.

Population

The estimated mid-year population for 1956 as given by the Registrar General was 12,310, a decrease of 20 from the estimated population for the previous year, i.e., 12,330.

Number of Inhabited Houses

The number of inhabited houses at the end of 1956 was 4,489 as compared with 4,452 at the end of 1955. Towards this increase 52 houses (including 12 flats) were provided by the Council, 8 houses and Almshouses converted to flats and 5 were constructed privately. During the year 28 houses were demolished. The net increase in habitable houses was 37.

Rateable Value

£146,727, (Revaluation 1st April, 1956) compared with £83,482 prior to Revaluation.

Sum Represented by the Penny Rate

£581. 10s. 6.53d., (first year on New Valuation List), an increase of £272. 0s. 4.24d. on the figure for 1955, (last year on Old Valuation List).

SECTION IIVITAL STATISTICSBirths

The number of births during 1956 was 180. This is a decrease of 10 from the previous year, i.e. 190.

Of the total births belonging to the area (180) during 1956 64 were born outside the area. There is no private maternity accommodation in the Borough.

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
(i) Live Births - Legitimate	87 (105)	87 (80)	174 (185)
Illegitimate	2 (3)	4 (2)	6 (5)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals	89 (108)	91 (82)	180 (190)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

(ii) Still Births - The number of still births in 1956 was 5 being an increase of 3 over 1955. This represents 2.7% of all live and still births.

(iii) Illegitimate Births - These numbered 5 during 1956 being the same as in the previous year. The percentage of illegitimate births to total births was 2.7%. 1955 percentage was 2.6%.

(iv) Birth Rate - The crude birth rate for the year was 14.6 per 1,000 of the estimated population.

The corrected birth rate for 1956 was 15.3.

The birth rate for England and Wales as a whole was 15.7 per 1,000 of the population.

(v) Table II shows the number of birth and the birth rates since 1947 and the number of illegitimate births each year during the same period.

Deaths

(a) The number of deaths occurring in and assignable to the Borough during 1956 was 266. Of these 132 were males and 134 females, being 49 more than in the previous year. All deaths occurring at Bensted House irrespective of whether the person was previously a resident in Faversham or not are assigned to Faversham. Of the 266 deaths 115 occurred at Bensted House.

(b) The following table shows the age groups in which the deaths occurred:-

TABLE I

Sex	Under one year	1-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75-	85 and Over	Total
Males	9	-	-	2	1	2	8	13	31	46	20	132
Females	2	-	-	1	-	3	2	14	30	47	35	134
Totals	11	-	-	3	1	5	10	27	61	93	55	266

The average age of death was 70.7 years, being 67.5 for males and 79.9 for females. The oldest death was that of a female aged 97 years.

(c) The crude death rate for 1956 was 21.6 per 1,000 of the population as compared with 18.4 in the preceding year. The corrected death rate i.e., the rate adjusted for age and sex distribution to that of England and Wales as a whole, was 10.3 per 1,000. The rate for England and Wales was 11.7 per 1,000.

(d) Table II shows the number of death rates since 1947 and Table III shows the causes of death during 1956 classified by the Registrar General under 36 headings on the Abbreviated List of the International Classification of Disease, Injuries and Cause of Death.

TABLE II

Births, Deaths and Infant Mortality - 1947 - 1956

Year	Births			Deaths		Infant Mortality	
	Illegitimate births	Total live Births	Crude Birth Rate	No. of Deaths	Crude Death Rate	Total Infant Deaths	Infant Mortality Rate
1947	17	254	30.8	171	14.0	7	27.1
1948	16	225	18.5	166	13.6	8	35.5
1949	9	218	17.6	184	14.9	4	18.3
1950	4	188	14.9	157	12.4	8	42.5
1951	6	175	14.2	150	12.2	5	28.5
1952	12	203	16.6	267	21.8	5	24.6
1953	13	191	15.5	232	18.9	4	20.9
1954	4	198	16.1	220	17.9	3	15.2
1955	5	190	15.4	227	18.4	5	26.3
1956	6	180	14.6	266	21.6	11	61.1

TABLE III

Classification of Causes	Males	Females	Total
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	- (1)	- (1)	- (2)
2. Tuberculosis, other	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
3. Syphilitic disease	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
4. Diphtheria	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
5. Whooping Cough	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
6. Meningococcal infections	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
8. Measles	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	2 (-)	- (1)	2 (1)
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	2 (3)	1 (1)	3 (4)
11. " " ,lungs bronchus	5 (5)	- (-)	5 (5)
12. " " , breast	1 (-)	3 (5)	4 (5)
13. " " , uterus	- (-)	2 (1)	2 (1)
14. Other malignant & Lymphatic Neoplasms	15 (15)	6 (8)	21 (23)
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1 (4)	1 (-)	2 (4)
16. Diabetes	1 (1)	- (1)	1 (2)
17. Vascular Lesions of nervous system	18 (16)	20 (21)	38 (37)
18. Coronary disease, angina	12 (7)	14 (10)	26 (17)
19. Hypertension with heart disease	- (1)	5 (2)	5 (3)
20. Other heart disease	40 (33)	56 (46)	96 (79)
21. Other circulatory disease	5 (3)	4 (6)	9 (9)
22. Influenza	1 (-)	- (1)	1 (1)
23. Pneumonia	2 (2)	2 (1)	4 (3)
24. Bronchitis	8 (2)	5 (1)	13 (3)
25. Other disease of respiratory System	1 (-)	1 (-)	2 (-)
26. Ulcer of stomach & duodenum	3 (4)	1 (-)	4 (4)
27. Gastritis, enteritis & diarrhoea	1 (-)	1 (-)	2 (-)
28. Nephritis & nephrosis	- (-)	2 (-)	2 (-)
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
31. Congenital malformations	1 (1)	1 (2)	2 (3)
32. Other defined & ill-defined diseases	10 (7)	7 (8)	17 (15)
33. Motor vehicle accidents	1 (-)	- (1)	1 (1)
34. All other accidents	1 (1)	1 (2)	2 (3)
35. Suicide	1 (1)	1 (1)	2 (2)
36. Homicide & operations of war	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
All causes	132 (107)	134 (120)	266 (227)

(Figures in brackets refer to the preceding year)

Infant Mortality

The number of deaths of infants under 1 year was 11 in 1956, being six more than in the previous year. The infant mortality rate for the year was 61.1. Infant mortality rate for England and Wales as a whole was 23.8.

The number of infant deaths each year and the infant mortality rate since 1947 is shown in Table II.

Particulars in regard to the deaths that occurred in 1956 were as follows:-

Cause of Death	Sex	Age at Death	Place of Birth	Place of Death
Pneumonia	M	12 hours	Home	Hospital
Peritonitis)	M	5 days	Hospital	Hospital
Perforation of ascending colon)				
Cerebral anoxia)	M	1 day	Hospital	Hospital
Failure to breathe at birth)				
Asphyxia Neonatorum	M	3 hours	Home	Nursing Home
Prematurity	M	4 hours	Hospital	Hospital
Acute Bronchopneumonia	F	12 days	Home	Hospital
Acute hepatic Failure)	M	4 months	Home	Ambulance)
Fulminating upper respiratory infection)				
Anoxia)	M	4 months	Home	Home
Acute fulminating infection)				
Hydrocephalus)	F	9 months	Home	Home
Meningocele)				
Hydrocephalus)	M	3 months	Home	Hospital
Meningocele)				
Anoxia)	M	8 months	Hospital	Home
Acute Generalised infection)				

SECTION IIIINFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

The number of infectious diseases notified in 1956 was 56 being 426 less than in the previous year, i.e. 482 cases in 1955. This decrease is due to the small number of measles notified, only 2 during 1956 compared with 447 in 1955. One case of food poisoning, (*Salmonella Typhi murium*) was notified during the year the cause of which was unknown.

Total number of Infectious Diseases occurring and the number admitted to hospital and the total deaths from diseases as shown in the Registrar General's classification of deaths are shown in Table IV and the age distribution of cases occurring is shown in Table V.

TABLE IV

Disease	No. of Cases		Admission to Hospital or Sanatorium	Deaths
	1956	1955		
Scarlet Fever	7	(4)	6	-
Whooping Cough	14	(5)	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	1	(4)	1	-
Measles	2	(447)	-	-
Pneumonia	18	(17)	2	4
Dysentery	-	(1)	-	-
Erysipelas	-	(-)	-	-
Meningococcal Infections	-	(-)	-	-
Food Poisoning	1	(3)	1	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	(-)	-	-
Tuberculosis Pulmonary	11	(1)	9	-
Non-Pulmonary	1	(-)	-	-
Totals	56	(482)	19	4

TABLE VAge Group Distribution - Infectious Disease

Disease	-1	-5	-15	-20	-30	-40	-50	-60	over 60	Total
Scarlet Fever	-	3	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
Whooping Cough	2	7	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	14
Measles	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2
Pneumonia	-	2	-	-	2	2	2	4	6	18
Food Poisoning	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Tuberculosis Pulmonary	-	-	-	1	3	4	-	1	2	11
Non-Pulmonary	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1

Table VI shows the incidence of Infectious Disease in the Borough in 1956 in comparison with the previous ten years.

TABLE VIIncidence of Infectious Disease during the undermentioned years

Disease	1946	'47	'48	'49	'50	'51	'52	'53	'54	'55	'56
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	3	6	6	14	34	3	5	2	2	4	7
Diphtheria	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	136	11	206	13	373	106	372	79	4	447	2
Whooping Cough	31	92	46	8	49	256	9	79	107	5	14
Erysipelas	2	-	3	1	2	4	1	2	-	-	-
Pneumonia	2	7	5	10	8	14	15	18	9	17	18
Typhus Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	1	-

continued on Page No.11.

TABLE VI (continued)

Incidence of Infectious Disease during the undermentioned years

Disease	1946	'47	'48	'49	'50	'51	'52	'53	'54	'55	'56
Typhoid & Paratyphoid Fever	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	3	-	1	1	-	1	-	-	4	1
Encephalitis Lethargica	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	-	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	12	45	-	-	1	-	8	1	3	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	2	2	-	-	3	-	2	1	-	1
Malaria	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

TUBERCULOSIS1. Incidence and Deaths

Eleven cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified during 1956. Only one case was notified during 1955. This increase was partly due to the visit of the Mass Radiography Unit to Faversham during 2nd to 17th February, 1956. No deaths from Pulmonary tuberculosis were notified during the year.

In regard to Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis, only one case was notified.

Table VII shows the number of cases notified and the deaths attributed to Tuberculosis since 1947.

TABLE VII

Tuberculosis - Notifications and Deaths - 1947 - 1956

Year	No. of Primary Notifications received		Deaths		Death Rate per 10,000 of Population	
	Pulmonary	Non- Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non- Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non- Pulmonary
1947	10	5	3	-	2.4	-
1948	23	8	6	1	4.9	0.8
1949	8	8	5	1	4.1	0.8
1950	4	5	2	-	1.5	-
1951	8	1	5	-	4.0	-
1952	20	1	3	-	2.4	-
1953	9	2	-	-	-	-
1954	6	-	4	-	3.3	-
1955	1	-	2	-	0.8	-
1956	11	1	-	-	-	-

2. Mass Radiography Unit

During the period 2nd February to 17th February, 1956, the Mass Radiography Unit of the Regional Hospital Board was stationed at the Drill Hall, Preston Street, Faversham, details of the examinations carried out by the Unit are as follows:-

Number of volunteers:

<u>Adults</u>		<u>Schools</u>		<u>Total</u>
<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Boys</u>	<u>Girls</u>	
1,401	1,536	677	567	4,117
(1,298)	(1,536)	(342)	(341)	(3,517)

(figures in brackets indicate numbers attending during previous survey in 1952).

Number recalled for large films:

Males	33
Females	36
Total	69

% recalled for large films to number of volunteers:

2.0

RESULTS

Active tuberculosis	Males	1
	Females	2
	<u>total</u>	<u>3</u>
Inactive tuberculosis	Males	21
	Females	16
	<u>Total</u>	<u>37</u>

The number of volunteers who attended the Mass Radiography Unit for the first time was 50% of the total number of attendances.

3. Tuberculosis Register

The number and types of cases at present in the Area and on the Tuberculosis Register are shown in Table VIII.

TABLE VIII

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Totals
	M	F	M	F	
On Tuberculosis Register 1/1/56.	40 (44)	34 (40)	11 (16)	9 (10)	94 (110)
Transferred to Borough	1 (-)	4 (-)	- (-)	- (-)	5 (-)
Notified in Borough	7 (1)	4 (-)	- (-)	1 (-)	12 (1)
Returned to Borough	1 (-)	- (-)	1 (-)	- (-)	2 (-)
	49 (45)	42 (40)	12 (16)	10 (10)	113 (111)
Deaths	- (1)	- (1)	- (-)	- (-)	- (2)
Removed from Borough	3 (2)	4 (2)	- (-)	- (-)	7 (4)
Recovered	- (2)	- (3)	- (5)	1 (1)	1 (11)
Balance remaining on Register 31/12/56.	46 (40)	38 (34)	12 (11)	9 (9)	105 (94)

(Figures in brackets refer to the preceding year).

I am indebted to Dr. O. Clarke, Consultant Chest Physician for the following further particulars regarding patients from the Faversham Area:-

- | | | |
|---|-----|-----|
| (a) Number of patients from the Borough of Faversham who attended the Chest Clinic during 1956 (this includes contacts, etc.) | ... | 285 |
| (b) Total number of attendances during the year by patients in (a) above | ... | 449 |
| (c) Number of patients from the Borough of Faversham who received Sanatorium treatment during the year. | ... | 12 |

IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION

1. Diphtheria Immunisation

The County Medical Officer reports that during 1956 152 children under 5 years of age and 21 children between the ages of 5 and 15 were immunised against Diphtheria, and a further 248 children received re-inforcing inoculations. In the preceding year 150 children under 5 years of age and 14 children between the ages of 5 and 15 years were inoculated.

2. Vaccination Against Smallpox

The County Medical Officer also reports that during the same period 117 primary vaccinations and 14 re-vaccinations against Smallpox were carried out. Of the 117 primary vaccinations, 65 were children under 1 year of age and 41 of children aged 1 to 2 years.

SECTION IV

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

1. National Health Services

Local Authority Health Services under the National Health Service Act are provided and administered by the Kent County Council. These Services include the Care of Mothers and Young Children, the provision of Midwives, Health Visiting and Home Nursing, Vaccination and Immunisation, Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care, and Domestic Help Services.

Chest Clinics and the care of Tuberculosis patients are the responsibility of the Regional Hospital Board, as also is Mental Welfare.

Various clinics in connection with these Services are held as follows:-

Clinics and Sessions

- (a) Queen's Hall
- | | <u>Day</u> | <u>Time</u> |
|---------------|-------------------|-------------|
| Child Welfare | Tues. and Friday. | 2 - 4 p.m. |

(immunisation is carried out at the Child Welfare Clinic on Friday afternoon, if required, but vaccinations are all referred to own Doctor).

- (b) School Clinic
- | <u>Solomon's Lane</u> | <u>Day</u> | <u>Time</u> |
|-----------------------|------------|------------------|
| Relaxation Classes | Monday | 2.30 - 3.30 p.m. |
| Minor Ailments Clinic | (Wednesday | 9 - 10 a.m. |
| | (Saturday | 9 - 12 noon. |
| Dental Gas Clinic | Tuesday | 9 - 12 noon. |
| Dental | Tuesday | 2 - 4 p.m. |

- (c) Chest Clinic
- | <u>South Road</u> | | |
|-------------------|---------------------------|------------|
| | Thursday (by appointment) | 10.30 a.m. |

Cases for X-Ray and Artificial Pneumothorax are referred to the Kent and Canterbury Hospital as and when required.

- (d) Domestic Help - Application can be made at the Kent County Welfare Office, West Street, Faversham. Mon., Tues., Fri.; 9 - 10 a.m. or Wed., Thurs., Sat.; 9 a.m. - 12 noon.

- (e) Psychiatric - Clinic
- | <u>South Road</u> |
|-------------------|
|-------------------|

This clinic is held every Thursday at 5. 0 p.m.
 Appointments are made through St. Augustine's Hospital.

2. School Health Services

I am indebted to the County Medical Officer for the following information on the work of the School Health Service in the Borough.

(i) Medical Inspection

- (a) Number of children inspected
(periodic inspections) 901 (641)
- (b) Number found requiring treatment 75 (125)
- (c) Percentage requiring treatment 8.3% (19.5%)
- (d) Number of main defects requiring treatment

Eyes	37	(62)
Ear, Nose and Throat	5	(15)
Orthopaedic	24	(25)
Heart & Circulation	-	(1)
Lungs	3	(7)

(ii) Classification of General Condition of Pupils:-

Age Groups	Number of Pupils Inspected	Satisfactory		Unsatisfactory	
		No.	% of Col.(2)	No.	% of Col.(2)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Entrants	203	200	98.5	3	1.5
Second Age Group	111	111	100.0	-	-
Third Age Group	95	95	100.0	-	-
Other Periodic Inspections	492	490	99.6	2	0.4
Total	901	896	99.4	5	0.6

(iii) Dental Inspection and Treatment

(a) Number of children inspected	3,231	(1,242)
(b) Number found to require treatment	1,849	(656)
(c) Percentage requiring treatment	63.0%	(52.8%)

(iv) Infestation with Vermin

(a) Total number of examinations in the schools by the school nurses or other authorised persons	2,450	(5,997)
(b) Total number of individual pupils found to be infested	23	(18)
(c) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54 (2) Education Act, 1944).	-	(-)

(v) Comment

These figures indicate that generally the health and physical condition of the children in the Borough remains good.

SECTION VSANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA1. General Sanitary Circumstances(a) Water Supply

There has been no alteration under this heading during the year.

The supply provided by the Faversham Water Company is of excellent quality and adequate for the needs of the District.

Eighteen samples, sixteen of which were taken by the Company, were bacteriologically examined and were of excellent quality. Samples taken for chemical examination were also very satisfactory.

With the exception of nine houses in the Ham Farm area, the Shipwright's Arms, Hollowshore, and two School Farm Cottages, Whitstable Road, all houses in the District receive a main supply.

Chlorination is carried out by the Water Company at the Copton Pumping Station.

(b) Drainage and Sewerage

There has been no alterations to or extensions of the existing sewers during 1956.

(c) Scavenging

This service is administered by the Borough Engineer and Surveyor, house and trade refuse being disposed of by tipping at Preston Chalk Pit or alternatively at Ospringe Brickfield.

(d) School Sanitation

All schools in the District are connected to the main Sewerage system.

No fault was found with the manner in which school sanitary conveniences were maintained during the year.

(e) Public Conveniences

There have been no alterations under this heading during the year.

(f) Hop-pickers Camps

There are two encampments in the District at Queen Court, Ospringle and Westwood Court, Selling Road.

Inspections were made prior to and during occupation and the camps were kept in a reasonably good sanitary condition during the season.

Some 600 - 700 persons, mostly women and children, occupied the two encampments during September.

(g) Mortuary Accommodation

The Cottage Hospital Mortuary is used as required.

2. Inspection and Supervision of Food

(a) Milk

There are two dairies where the process of pasteurisation is carried out under the supervision of the County Council as Food and Drugs Authority. Four premises are registered as dairies and there are five registered distributors. Twenty licences to retail 'Sterilized' Milk were granted, mostly to general shop-keepers.

(b) Meat

One licensed slaughterhouse is in operation by local butchers. There was again a decrease in the number of animals killed during the year, i.e. 3,717 as against 4,268 for the preceding year. The amount of meat and organs condemned on account of diseased conditions totalled 15 cwts. 2 qrs 25 lbs., which again shows a decrease of approximately a quarter of a ton on the preceding year. This is no doubt accounted for by the fall off in the number of animals slaughtered.

Table IX on the following page shows particulars of the animals slaughtered and diseased conditions found.

TABLE IX

	Cattle ex- cluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total
No. killed.....	379 (379)	20 (158)	56 (62)	1,154 (930)	2,108 (2,739)	3,717 (4,268)
No. inspected...	379 (379)	20 (158)	56 (62)	1,154 (930)	2,108 (2,739)	3,717 (4,268)
<u>All Diseases except</u> <u>Tuberculosis.</u> Whole carcasses condemned.	- (-)	1 (1)	- (-)	2 (3)	1 (-)	4 4
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	50 (38)	- (11)	- (-)	24 (4)	35 (14)	109 (67)
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	13.2% (10%)	5% (7.6%)	- (-)	2.2% (.7%)	1.7% (.5%)	- (-)
<u>Tuberculosis only</u> Whole carcasses condemned	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	13 (20)	- (10)	- -	- -	5 (1)	18 (31)
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	3.4% (5.2%)	- (6.3%)	- (-)	- (-)	.2% (.04%)	- (-)

(Figures in brackets are the corresponding figures for 1955).

(c) Other Foods

During the year 1 ton 14 cwts. 1 qr. 14 lbs. of assorted foodstuffs were condemned. These consisted mainly of tinned foods, fish, etc.

During a severe storm a quantity of frozen meat, i.e. $13\frac{1}{2}$ tons, which was receiving ozonic treatment for the removal of orange taint at Messrs. East Kent Packers Ltd., was damaged by flood water from overflowing drains and was condemned.

Two large consignments of melons consisting of 2,709 cases in January and 4,378 melons in December commenced to decompose in cold storage and were condemned.

(d) Preparation of Preserved Foods

Under this heading is included the manufacture of Sausages, preparation of cooked meats, fish-frying etc., and twenty-nine premises are registered for these purposes. Routine inspections are made and generally conditions are satisfactory.

On 1st January, 1956 the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955 came into operation. The Regulations in effect provide for hygienic conditions in premises where food is sold, prepared or stored and for the personal cleanliness of persons engaged in handling food. This legislation should go a long way towards ensuring a safe food supply for the public.

An Exhibition was held at the Grammar School Hall on 12th April, 1956. This included displays of equipment, photographs of local food premises, exhibits of material showing good hygienic methods, films and a lecture by the Food Advisory Officer of the Ministry of Health. Unfortunately the weather was unkind as it was the wettest day for 2 months, despite this the attendance was fair and the exhibition roused interest and enquiry.

(e) Ice-Cream

Fifty-six premises are registered for the sale of ice-cream. All are provided with refrigerated cabinets and most of the ice-cream is sold as received in a pre-packed condition.

(f) Bakehouses

There are seven in the District and they are generally kept in a satisfactory condition.

(g) Food Premises

The following table shows the premises where food is sold or handled and the number of inspections made.

TABLE XFOOD PREMISES

<u>Premises</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Number of Inspections</u>
Butchers & Pork Butchers	15	119
Grocers	24	96
Fishmongers	4	43
+Fish Fryers	6	15
Bakers & Confectioners	12	40
Greengrocers	9	20
Dairies	4	8
Cafes & teashops	8	16
Hotels	5	5
General Shops	34	37
+Ice-cream Premises	56	23
+Preserved Foods	29	26
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	206	448

+ Registered under Food and Drugs Act, 1955 Section 16.

(h) Food & Drugs Act, 1955

The following details of samples taken in the District under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 are supplied by courtesy of the Chief Inspector, Weights & Measures Department, Kent County Council.

<u>Article</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Article</u>	<u>No.</u>
Betox	1	B/fd.	13
Bun flour, unsweetened	1	Pilchards in Tomato	1
Butter	1	Pork Luncheon Meat	1
B.V.U. Sedative Tablets	1	Realem	1
Chicken Noodle Soup	1	Salad Cream	1
Choledyl Tablets	1	Salmon and Shrimp Paste	1
Dandruff Remover Shampoo	1	Sandwich Mixture	1
Equanil Tablets	1	Sardines	1
Gin	1	Serocalcin Tablets	1
Glucose Buttermints	1	Smooth Asparagus Soup	1
Ground Almonds	1	Sponge Mixture	1
Inversine Tablets	1	Sponge Mixture, Sweetened	1
Kidney Flavour Soup	1	Stewed Steak	1
	<hr/>		<hr/>
C/fd.	13	C/fd.	25

<u>Article</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Article</u>	<u>No.</u>
B/fd.	25	B/fd.	63
Lyonnoise Soup with cream	1	Stim	1
Margarine	2	Sweetened Sponge Mixture	1
Milk	32	Tea Cake Mixture, sweetened	1
Noodle Soupmix	1	Tinties	1
Panadol Tablets	1	Whisky	2
Pease Pudding	1		
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	C/fd.	Total	69
	63		<hr/>

Summary

Milks	32
Drugs	7
Spirits	3
Other samples	27
Total	<hr/> 69 <hr/>

All the above samples were genuine with the exception of the following:-

<u>Sample of</u>	<u>Analysis</u>	<u>Action taken</u>
Sweetened Sponge Mixture.	Inferior. Fluoride 1.8 p.p.m., Moisture 7.2%. Mites 240,000/lb.	Old stock. Remainder with- drawn from sale.

3. Disinfection and Disinfestation

Eight disinfections were carried out during the year in connection with notified cases of infectious disease as follows:-

Poliomyelitis	1
Tuberculosis	2
Scarlet Fever	5

Total 8

Four disinfestations were carried out of houses infested with vermin.

4. Rodent Control

409 inspections were made during 1956 and 112 treatments carried out. Treatments are carried out by a part-time Rodent Operator from the Council's Highway Staff who performs this work very efficiently.

The following table shows particulars of inspections and treatments.

TABLE XI

	Type of Property				Total
	Local Authority	Dwelling-Houses	Agricultural	All other including Business Premises	
1. Total number of Properties in Local Authority District	23	4,489	17	213	4,742
2. Number of Properties inspected by Local Authority	23	220	8	158	409
3. Number of properties inspected found to be infested by rats	7	69	3	14	93
4. No. of properties inspected found to be seriously infested with mice	-	9	-	10	19
5. No. of properties treated by Local Authority	7	78	3	24	112

5. Rag Flock Act, 1951

There are no premises in the Council's district to which this Act applies.

6. Pet Animals Act, 1951

Two premises are licensed for the sale of pet animals. The Act provides for the keeping of such animals under humane and hygienic conditions. Both premises are satisfactory in these respects.

7. Summary

Appendix 'B' summarises sanitary inspections and visits (other than those in connection with housing) carried out during the year.

SECTION VIHOUSING

1. The following is a summary of action taken under the Housing and Public Health Acts during the year.

(a) Inspections of dwelling-houses for housing defects	124
(b) Number of houses found to be in any respect unfit for human habitation	31
(c) Number of houses found to be unfit for human habitation and incapable of repair at reasonable expense	6
(d) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied by informal action	30
(e) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices	1
(f) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which demolition orders were made	4
(g) Number of houses demolished by formal action	25
(h) Number of houses closed under Section II, Housing Act, 1936	2
(i) Number of new houses erected by Local Authority	52
(j) Number of new houses erected by Private Enterprise	5

2. The following statement shows various types of nuisances and housing defects dealt with:-

	<u>Defects</u>	<u>Visits & Revisits</u>
Leaking & defective roofs	7	17
Damp & defective walls	6	14
Defective ceilings	7	10
Defective floors	2	4
Defective doors & windows	3	4
Defective chimneys	3	3
Defective coppers, stoves & fireplaces	4	6
Defective drains	6	15
Blocked drains	25	34
Cesspools full	1	2
Cesspools insufficient	1	4
Defective W.C. cisterns	3	5
Defective W.C. pans	6	7
Defective sinks & sink wastepipes	4	6
Dirty houses	1	4
Deposit of refuse	1	2
Totals	<u>80</u>	<u>137</u>

3. Unfit Houses

As part of the Council's Five Year Slum Clearance Programme four Areas were dealt with during the year containing twenty-one, twelve, five and six houses respectively. These were the Wallers Row, Gravelpit Row and Water Lane, Ospringe Areas. Four individually unfit houses were also dealt with and demolition orders were made by the Council in respect of each. The total number of houses dealt with during the year in either Clearance Areas or as individually unfit was forty-eight.

4. Provision of Houses

The following table shows the number of houses built each year since the end of the war.

TABLE XII

Year	Council Houses		Police Houses	Private Enterprise	Total
	Temporary	Permanent			
1946	50	-	-	1	51
1947	-	18	-	5	23
1948	-	53	-	10	63
1949	-	71	5	10	86
1950	-	61	-	11	72
1951	-	80	2	8	90
1952	-	66	-	7	73
1953	-	60	-	10	70
1954	-	72	5	3	80
1955	-	80	-	8	88
1956	-	52	-	5	57
Totals	50	613	12	78	753

SECTION VIIFACTORY ADMINISTRATION

1. (i) Number of Factories on Register:-

(a) Factories with mechanical power	...	74
(b) Factories without mechanical power	...	32
Total	...	<u>106</u>

(ii) Number of Inspections:-

(a) Factories with mechanical power	...	53
(b) Factories without mechanical power	...	20
Total	...	<u>73</u>

2. Cases in which defects were found:-

	Found	Remedied	Referred	
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	2	2	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)				
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-
Totals	2	2	-	-

SECTION VIIIFAVERSHAM PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

There has been no alteration during the year in the area of the Port which for sanitary administration is divided into two sections, viz, (a) The Eastern Section (Faversham Creek) and (b) The Western Section (Milton Creek).

Section I. - Staff

No change.

Section II. - Amount of Shipping entering district during the year:-

Ships from	Number	Tonnage	<u>Number Inspected</u>		Number of Ships reported as having or having had during the voyage infectious disease aboard
			Medical Officer	Port Health Inspector	
(i) Eastern Section					
(a) Coastwise	10	930	Nil	2	Nil
(b) Foreign	10	1,113	Nil	2	Nil
(c) Lighters & Barges	339	20,340	Nil	2	Nil
(ii) Western Section					
(a) Coastwise	493	57,611	Nil	14	Nil
(b) Foreign	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(c) Lighters & Barges	126	13,769	Nil	6	Nil
Totals	978	93,163	Nil	26	Nil

Section III - Character of Shipping and Trade during the year:-

(i) Passenger traffic ... Nil.

(ii) Cargo traffic

 (a) Eastern Section:-

 Principal Imports ... Petrol, Crude Oil, Grain, Timber and Fertilizers.

 Principal Exports ... Nil.

Section III (Continued)

(b) Western Section:-

Principal Imports ... Gypsum stone, Coal,
China Clay, Timber,
Ballast, Sand, Beans
and Pulp.

Principal Exports ... Cement and Paper.

(iii) Principal Ports from which Ships arrive:-

(a) Eastern Section

Coastwise ... Thames Estuary.
Foreign ... Rotterdam, Antwerp,
Hamburg.

(b) Western Section

Coastwise ... London and Rochester.
Foreign ... Nil.

Section IV. - Inland Barge Traffic ... Nil.

Section V. - Water Supply

No change.

Section VI. - Public Health (Ships Regulations), 1952

No change.

Section VII - Smallpox

No change.

Section VIII.- Venereal Diseases

No change.

Section IX.- Cases of notifiable and other Infectious Diseases
dealt with during the year

Nil.

Section X. - Malaria

Nil.

Section XI. - Measures taken against ships infected with or
suspected for Plague

Nil.

Section XII. - Measures against rodents in ships from
Foreign Ports

Nil.

Section XIII. - Inspection of Ships for Nuisances

No nuisances were found on ships during the year.

Section XIV. - Public Health (Shellfish) Regulations

No change.

Section XV. - Medical Inspection of Aliens

No change.

Section XVI. - Arrangements for burial on shore of persons
who have died on board from infectious
disease

No change.

APPENDIX "A"Readings Recorded at the Borough Sewage Works

Month	Rainfall (inches)		Temperatures			
			Maximum		Minimum	
	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955
January	4.45	(3.03)	52°	(53°)	21°	(19°)
February	2.51	(1.66)	49°	(52°)	12°	(20°)
March	.40	(1.52)	63°	(60°)	22°	(22°)
April	.97	(.23)	69°	(74°)	27°	(29°)
May	.74	(4.34)	80°	(71°)	34°	(35°)
June	2.21	(1.83)	76°	(83°)	42°	(35°)
July	2.50	(2.76)	84°	(83°)	44°	(47°)
August	4.53	(2.31)	75°	(83°)	44°	(45°)
September	2.18	(1.19)	76°	(78°)	45°	(41°)
October	1.32	(5.09)	67°	(67°)	34°	(29°)
November	.68	(1.05)	55°	(62°)	20°	(25°)
December	2.97	(1.60)	55°	(56°)	26°	(25°)
Total	25.48	(26.61)				

APPENDIX "B"Particulars of Sanitary Inspections and Visits

Infectious Disease and Disinfections	...	9
Slaughterhouse	...	644
Butchers Shops	...	119
Grocers Shops	...	96
Dairies	...	8
Fish Shops	...	43
Fish Frying Establishments	...	15
Bakers & Confectioners	...	40
Food Preparing Premises	...	89
Ice-cream Shops	...	23
Fruit & Vegetable Shops	...	20
Factories	...	73
Rats and Mice	...	409
Vermineous Premises	...	4
Total		1,592

